



Natural Resources Conservation Service
Parkade Center, Suite 250, 601 Business Loop 70 West
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May 12, 2004

MISSOURI BULLETIN No. MO-180-4-5

SUBJECT: CPA – Access to FSA fsn tract maps

Purpose: To provide guidance regarding access to fsn projects

Expiration Date: December 31, 2004

Several NRCS field offices have inquired about gaining access to and using a set of ArcView projects being made by FSA called “fsn projects”. These are being used by FSA to create a map by tract number to send to producers for certification that the common land unit (CLU) field polygons are correct. They are being stored at *f:\geodata\project_data\fsa*, which is available only to FSA employees and NRCS employees who are local geodata administrators (LGAs).

These projects do not contain any information that is not already available to NRCS employees. The CLU layer, as it is updated through corrections and reconstitutions, is written twice daily to *f:\geodata\common_land_unit\fsa_clu*. When a customer Toolkit project is opened, the most current CLU layer can be added and compared to previously created land units themes. Updates to the land units themes can be made when important to the business practice at the time.

Toolkit has a tool for generating a map with little time and input from the user. The resulting layout is very similar to the layouts stored in the FSA’s fsn projects. The only advantage to NRCS in using the fsn projects is to print out a map that has already been made. The disadvantages in using these projects is that the updated CLU theme is not incorporated into the customer’s Toolkit project, the layout is not stored in the customer’s Toolkit project for subsequent use, and the user does not gain the practical knowledge of using the Toolkit ArcView tools provided specifically for NRCS business. Therefore, it is the recommendation of the GIS Support Team that NRCS employees not ask IT for access to these projects or use them for their planning work.

Questions may be directed to any member of the State Office GIS Support Team.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Roger A. Hansen".

ROGER A. HANSEN
State Conservationist

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